




Speech by

Mark Ryan

MEMBER FOR MORAYFIELD

Hansard Tuesday, 29 November 2011

CABOOLTURE SPECIAL SCHOOL

 **Mr RYAN** (Morayfield—ALP) (10.25 pm): Members will be pleased to hear that construction works for the new two-storey classroom building at Caboolture Special School are progressing well. The new \$4.26 million two-storey building will have eight teaching spaces, a meeting room, office space, a therapy room and new amenities. The new building will replace an older two-classroom building and will give the school more room to move and continue to grow.

The block will be a state-of-the-art facility, complete with the latest communications technology and a lift for student access. The big advantage with the two-storey configuration is that it will give the school eight teaching spaces and a range of other facilities without the loss of playground space. Work on the new building is progressing well and should be completed for the start of the 2012 school year. This project is part of the Queensland Labor government's commitment to ensuring all Queensland students receive the best possible education and are supported through facilities to meet their learning needs.

Recently I was fortunate to witness the very talented students of this great school, Caboolture Special School, in action at their senior concert. The students were brilliant and I was very impressed by the efforts displayed by all involved in the production. So impressed am I that I think it is only appropriate that I quote from a poetic tribute to the students and staff of Caboolture Special School, written by the principal, Ms Beth Devonshire. The poem is called *Oh what a night* and reads as follows—

There were never so many teenagers at school
Who came to the stage with one message: 'WE RULE!'
They astounded their parents; they didn't know what to say,
They even surprised our MLA!
Olivia would have been proud when the students 'Got Physical'
They jumped, stretched and jived till their legs got whimsical.
Then the boys came on as 'Men at Work'
Their talents were sweet with an obvious smirk!
When the Tin Man came on with friends Dorothy and Scarecrow
There were rounds of applause from back to front row
They were ever so brave till the sound and curtain man came
And fixed it right up before the lion went tame.
Then as the five boys gave their one girl roses
The audience cried and they all wiped their noses
The gesture was sweet, it was all too much
Their smiles were so bright and so was their touch
And finally at the end of the show
We were shown the wilds of Caboolture Special School, you know
It was danger out there, but their guide was astute
The camouflage, khaki costumes were anything but cute!
We all survived the night, weeks of practice and nerves
It was right on the night with just a few swerves
So thanks to one and all for the memories we'll keep
And trust that we all now have a good sleep.

(Time expired)